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GENERAL NOTES.

The Florida Gallinule Breeding in Vermont.—Early in June, the present year, I left New York City for a short collecting trip in Vermont, in quest of, among other things, the Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*), in the hope of securing the birds, their nest and eggs, and the proper access-

ories, for a group piece for the American Museum of Natural History. On visiting the locality where in former years I had found the species breeding, my disappointment was very great to find the birds had departed. This locality is Lake Bomaseen, situated about sixteen miles from Rutland, Vermont. My first nest of these birds I found at this place, May 28, 1881. It was built in the cat-tail flags, upon a small, boggy island, quite a distance from the main land. It was slightly elevated above the water, and composed entirely of dry flags, and contained nine fresh eggs. The next season, 1882, I made two trips to the breeding ground, and found one nest, May 28, containing five eggs. This I left, and returned June 5, and found, not far from the first nest, a second one. These were situated on boggy ground connected with the main land. Both nests looked near enough alike to have been made by the same bird. The same kind of material was used as in the nest found in 1881. The first nest contained seven eggs, and the second one eleven. One of the birds was taken.

The next year, 1883, but one nest was found, near the place where two were found the year before. It contained nine eggs, and both of the birds could have been easily taken.

This year, after hunting for two days without result, a gentleman near where I was staying told me he thought a Mr. Johnson, of Hydeville, Vt., had taken the nest this season. When I returned to New York, I found, through Mr. Allen, that such was the case, Mr. Allen having received a letter from him reporting his discovery.

I do not think that more than one pair of birds breed at this lake. It is very probable that others may breed at Fort Cassan and Lambus Point, Lake Champlain.—JENNESS RICHARDSON, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

Under date of Hydeville, Vt., June 6, 1889, Mr. A. J. Johnson wrote me as follows: "I wish to establish the fact of the breeding of the Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) in the State of Vermont, having found a nest containing ten eggs in Lake Bomaseen, Castleton, Vt. It was built in a clump of rushes, and the nest also was made of the same. I saw the bird, but did not shoot it. Two years ago I shot one near the same place and found the nest. There must be several more breeding near this place, for I heard quite a number. I cannot find any record of this species breeding in Vermont in any book I have."

While the occurrence of the Florida Gallinule in Vermont is on record, the above seem to be the first reports of its breeding in that State.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

The Killdeer Plover (*Ægialitis vocifera*) wintering on the New England Coast.—On the 28th of January, 1889, I discovered seven Killdeer Plovers in a small meadow in Marblehead, where they remained throughout the winter. I visited the place four times in February, and found them always present. My last sight of them was March 1 (six birds), but Mr. Walter Faxon, who had previously seen them on several occasions, found